

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Original) 3-Methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone, and its acid addition salts.
2. (Original) 3-Methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone hydrochloride.
3. cancelled
4. cancelled
5. cancelled
6. (Original) A process for preparing (+)-(S)-N-methyl-3-(1-naphthyloxy)-3-(2-thienyl)-propylamine oxalate (Duloxetine<sup>®</sup>), wherein 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone, or an acid addition salt thereof, is prepared as intermediate.
7. (Original) The process according to claim 6, wherein 3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone, or an acid addition salt thereof, is reduced to (1S)-3-methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)propan-1-ol, or an acid addition salt thereof.
8. (Original) The process according to claim 7, wherein the reduction is carried out using a microbial dehydrogenase.
9. (New) A process for preparing N-methyl-3-(1-naphthyloxy)-3-(2-thienyl)propylamine or its acid addition salts which comprises using said 3-Methylamino-1-(2-thienyl)-1-propanone, and its acid addition salts as claimed in claim 1.